DRAGONAR
ACADEMY
ART BY
RAN
STORY BY
SHIKI MIZUCHI
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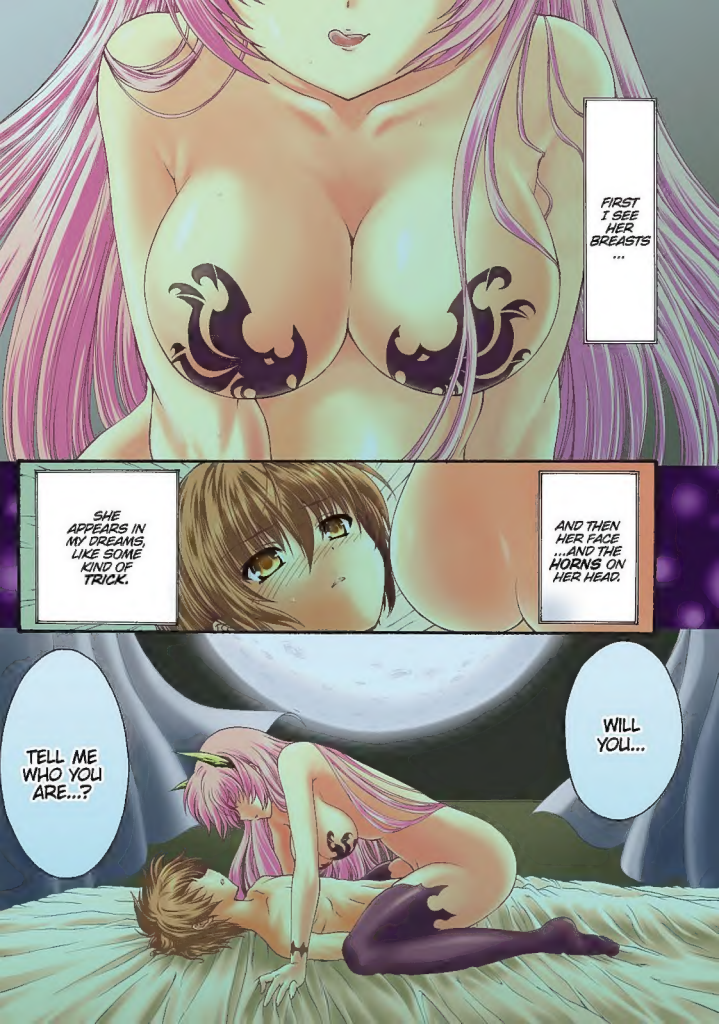
FIRST I SEE HER BREASTS ...
AND THEN HER FACE ...AND THE HORNS ON HER HEAD.
SHE APPEARS IN MY DREAMS, LIKE SOME KIND OF TRICK.
WILL YOU...
TELL ME WHO YOU ARE...?

Chapter 1
The Boy with the Dragon

Chapter 1
The Boy with the Dragon

MY NAME IS NAVI.
Sigh...
BUT I'M TRUSTING YOU TO TAKE CARE OF ME WHEN I AM.
I HAVEN'T BEEN BORN YET...
SO...
DON'T FORGET ABOUT ME...!

ART
RAN

STORY
SHIKI MIZUCHI

CHARACTER DESIGN
KOHADA SHIMESABA

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

DRAGONAR ACADEMY VOLUME 1

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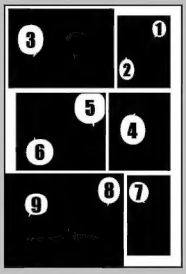
READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!

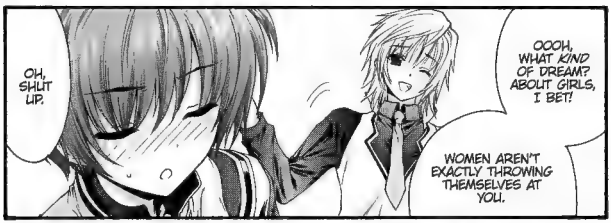


THE KNIGHT-DOM OF LAU-TREA-MONT.
ALSO CALLED "THE LAND OF DRAGO-NARS."
ANSUL-LIVAN DRAGO-NAR ACADE-MY.
BANG
BANG
THUD
UGH...
WHAT'S ALL THE RACKET?
FIRST-YEAR SENIOS (UPPERCLASSMAN) ASH BLAKE

TODAY IS THE FESTIVAL!
OH, YEAH--!
EARTHIA (EARTH-BOUND DRAGON).
STRADA (WINGED DRAGON).
WHERE DRAGONARS ARE TRAINED!
ANGUILLIVAN'S DRAGONAR ACADEMY...

EACH STUDENT RECEIVES A STAR MARK, AND ORPHAN DRAGONS ARE IMPLANTED IN THEIR BODIES.
DURING EACH STUDENT'S YUNIOS, OR BASIC TRAINING, THEIR DRAGON IS BORN AND BECOMES THEIR STEED.
HOW LONG BEFORE YOU WAKE UP, HUH?
HEY...
MY STAR MARK IS A LOT BIGGER THAN AVERAGE...
AND I'M A SENIOS NOW, SO WHY HASN'T MY STEED BEEN BORN!..?
BAM
BAM
HEY! ASH! YOU AWAKE?!
J-
JUST A MINUTE!
WRAP
WRAP
HEY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOUR FACE IS ALL RED.
FIRST-YEAR SENIOS RAYMOND KIRKLAND

TI-TIKP
TI-TIKP
ARE YOU SICK?
NOPE. JUST A DREAM I HAD.


OOOH, WHAT KIND OF DREAM? ABOUT GIRLS, I BET!
OH, SHUT UP.
WOMEN AREN'T EXACTLY THROWING THEMSELVES AT YOU.

HOW ABOUT WE MEET SOME GIRLS AT THE FESTIVAL?
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT.

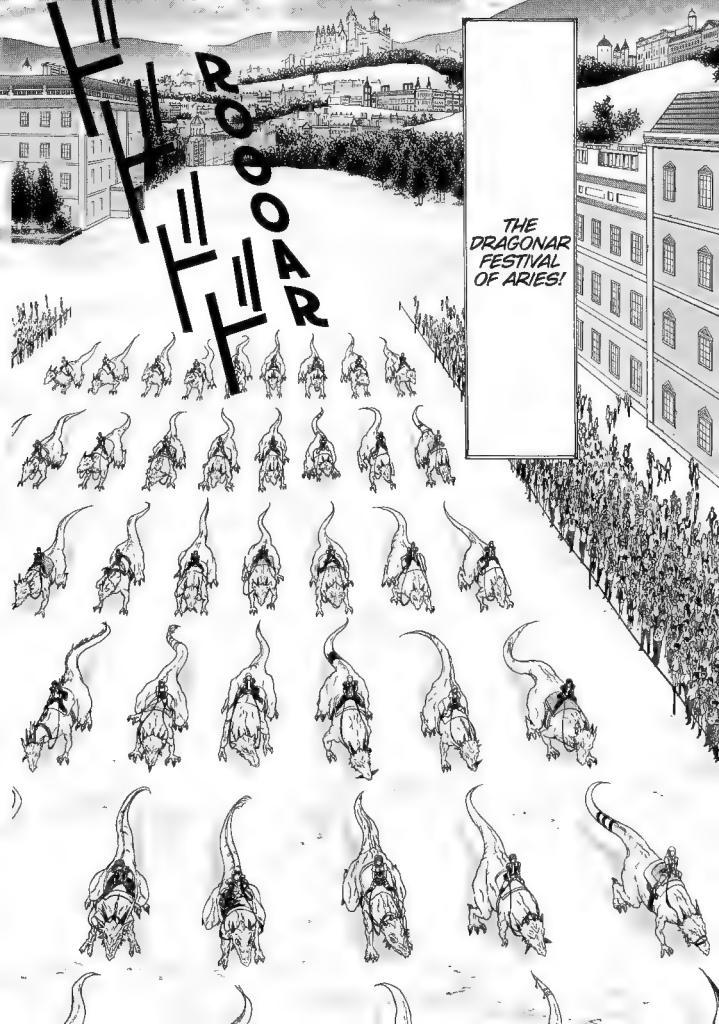
YOU'RE IN THE SAME BOAT I AM.
FWIP
I JUST HAVEN'T FOUND ONE WHO'S WORTH MY WHILE!
HEY, IT'S NOT THAT WOMEN DON'T LIKE ME!

SO...
GONNA PARTICIPATE IN THE RACE?
YOU BET!
IF YOU'LL LET ME BORROW YOUR BRIGITTE, THAT IS.
TUG
YOU'RE DOING GREAT, BRIGITTE!
Kuaah
HEH! YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD!

Kuaaah
.....
WHO EVER HEARD OF DRAGONS LETTING ANYONE BUT THEIR MASTERS ON THEIR BACKS?
IT STILL SEEMS WEIRD TO ME...
THAT YOU CAN RIDE OTHER PEOPLE'S STEEDS.
HEY, DON'T LOOK AT ME.
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY, THAT'S ALL.
SURE, WHATEVER.
THAT YOU BEAT THE PRINCESS IN THE RACE...
THE IMPORTANT THING IS...
AND SHUT HER UP FOR GOOD.

YEAH.
I'LL DO MY BEST!
BANG
BA-BANG
"THE RACE" IS...
OFFI-CIALLY KNOWN AS...

GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE!
THE DRAGONAR FESTIVAL OF ARIES!
ROOOAR


THE DRAGONAR FESTIVAL OF ARIES!

GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE!

THERE'S THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT!
HEY!
REBECCA RANDALL, THE "SCARLET EMPRESS"!
THERE'S NO DOUBT WHO THE ACADEMY'S MOST POWERFUL STUDENT IS.
NOT EVEN THE TEACHERS CAN DEFEAT HER.
WITH HER STEED, THE MASSIVE MAESTRO DRAGON CÚCHULAINN...

FELLOW STUDENTS!
TODAY'S FESTIVAL IS NO MERE SPORTING EVENT!
IT IS A VITAL ANSULLIVAN TRADITION!
SO TODAY, I'M SWEETENING THE POT BY OFFERING THE WINNER A DAY-LONG DATE!
!
TO BE CLEAR...
THAT'S A DATE WITH ME.
IF YOU CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE, YOU MUST COMMIT TO DOING YOUR VERY BEST!
BUT YOU'VE HEARD ALL THAT BEFORE. IT MAY NOT SWAY YOU.
SILENCE
QUIET DOWN!
NEXT, THE CONTESTANTS' REPRESENTATIVE WILL SAY A FEW WORDS.

!
THE PRINCESS IS THE REPRESEN-TATIVE?!
PLEASE WELCOME FIRST-YEAR SENIOS...
RAISE
PRINCESS SYLVIA LALITREAMONT!
CLANK
CLANK
STARING RIGHT AT ME!!
SHE'S...

A FEW DAYS AGO...
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
WE NEARLY CRASHED BECAUSE OF YOU!
THE "ICE BLUE PRINCESS."
THE FOURTH PRINCESS OF HOUSE LAUTREAMONT, RIDER OF THE MAESTRO DRAGON LANCELOT.
IT WAS ENTIRELY MY FAULT.
I'M SORRY.

YOU'RE THE ACADEMY'S WORST PROBLEM CHILD!!
AN APOLOGY ISN'T ENOUGH!
THE CITIZENS' TAXES PAY FOR YOUR EDUCATION HERE! DO YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?!
YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!!!
YOU CAN'T TALK TO ME THAT WAY!

URK!
OH? I HEAR YOU STILL DON'T HAVE A STEED.
IT'S PROBABLY AS USELESS AS ITS MASTER!
OR MAYBE IT'S LONG SINCE DEAD.

DO YOU THINK THAT'S FUNNY?!
H-HEY! ASH--!
IN THAT CASE...
I REFUSE.
TAKE IT BACK.
TAKE IT BACK RIGHT NOW!

I'LL WIN THE NEXT RACE AND MAKE YOU TAKE IT BACK!!!
NO MATTER WHAT THE GAME IS, DO YOUR BEST!
GOOD LUCK!!
MY FAMILY'S MOTTO IS SIMPLE.
YOU JUST DO THAT.
SILENCE...
WHAT WAS THAT?
WHISPER
SHE'S SO FULL OF HERSELF, JUST BECAUSE SHE'S FROM THE ROYAL FAMILY!
I WON'T LET ANYONE BADMOUTH MY DRAGON!!!
MY DRAGON WILL BE BORN!

I GUESS...
EVEN HER LIFE ISN'T EXACTLY PROBLEM FREE, HUH?
WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THEM, ANYWAY? THEY'RE DESCENDED FROM SOME GENERAL?
I MEAN, SO WHAT?
.....
ON YOUR MARKS!

HERE WE GO--!
TH-THMP
TH-THMP
GET SET!
GLANCE
BANG
SURGE

FWOOOO
GREAT START, BRIGHTTE! WAY TO GO!
RMBL
RMBL
NO SURPRISE, THOUGH, WITH A MAESTRO DRAGON LIKE HER LANCELOT.
SHE'S FAST!!
BUT IF I CAN STAY RIGHT BEHIND HER...
WE CAN RUN IN HER SLIP-STREAM AND MEET LESS RESISTANCE!

JOLT
HUH?!
WAIT, WHAT HAPPENED?! WHY'S SHE SLOWING DOWN LIKE THAT?!
RMBL
RMBL
!!
SOME-THING'S UP!
HEY, IT'S THOSE GIRLS--!
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL

THEY WERE GOSSIPING ABOUT HER EARLIER...!
SMIRK
THAT THEY'RE SPECIFICALLY TARGETING THE PRINCESS WITH THIS STUNT!
AND I'D BET ANYTHING...
LINING UP, LIKE THAT MEANS...
THEY'RE COMPLETELY BLOCKING THE WAY!
TEAMING UP FOR A BLOCKADE IS...
FAIR GAME ACCORDING TO THE RULES.
HEY! ARE YOU OKAY WITH THIS?!!
HOW DARE THEY!!

UGH, WHY ARE YOU SO STUBBORN?!
IF YOU WANT TO PASS ME, GO AHEAD!!
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!!
AREN'T YOU MAD ABOUT IT?!
STOP BEING SUCH A GOODY-GOODY!
THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS!!
WH-WHAT?
BLUUSH!
RUSH!
!

RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
RMBL
HURRY UP AND PASS US, WILL YOU!
HA!
NOT SO FAST--!
YANK
HUH?!
CLOMP
CL-CLOMP

GOSH, I'M SORRY!
I JUST BORROWED THIS DRAGON, SO I CAN'T REALLY CONTROL HER, YOU KNOW?
H-HEY!
WATCH IT!
HEY, WHAT--
WHAM
Y-YIKES!!
HUH? THAT DELINQUENT?!
EEEP!
Y-YOU'RE ASH BLAKE!
AAAAHHHH!
TUMBL
TUMBLE

THINGS WERE GOING WELL.
WELL...
DON'T EXPECT ME TO THANK YOU!
HEY!
FLAP

PANT
PANT
I'M SORRY, BRIGITTE.
I PUSHED YOU WAY TOO HARD.
YOU'RE AN EARTHIA. I SHOULD NEVER HAVE TRIED TO MAKE YOU KEEP UP WITH A MAESTRO.
WAS I...
THAT CAUGHT UP IN THE RACE...?
I...

THE PRINCESS IS WAY OVER THERE SOMEWHERE.
THE RACE MUST BE OVER BY NOW.
RIGHT ABOUT NOW I SHOULD BE FEELING TERRIBLE ABOUT LOSING.
BUT I DON'T. I WONDER WHY?
THANKS, BRIGITTE.
SNORT!
I GUESS...
IT'S BECAUSE I HAD FUN ANYWAY!
RUSTLE
...!

IS SOMEONE THERE?
IT FEELS LIKE SOMEBODY'S WATCHING ME--!
STAY HERE, OKAY?
Goooo.
RUSTLE
.....
!!
TWIST
SHOW YOUR-SELF!!

A MECHANICAL WEAPON?! LIKE THE EMPIRE USES?!!
ARE YOU PART OF THE EMPIRE'S MILITARY?!
RUSTLE
YOU HAVE GOOD INSTINCTS, BOY.
BRUSH
AND WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT IT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
UNH...
TMP
TMP

LEAP
STEP AWAY FROM MIL-GAUSS !!!
BUT THAT'S A KID--!!
SHRF

DIG
GU...
HURL
DASH
.....!
Huff...
Huff...
DAMMIT! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
JOLT
AAAH --!

NO-WHERE TO RUN!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?! WE HAVE A TRUCE WITH THE EMPIRE!
I DON'T OWE YOU AN EXPLANA-TION.
STUMBLING OVER US JUST MEANS...
IT'S YOUR UN-LUCKY DAY!
FWOOSH
EEEP!

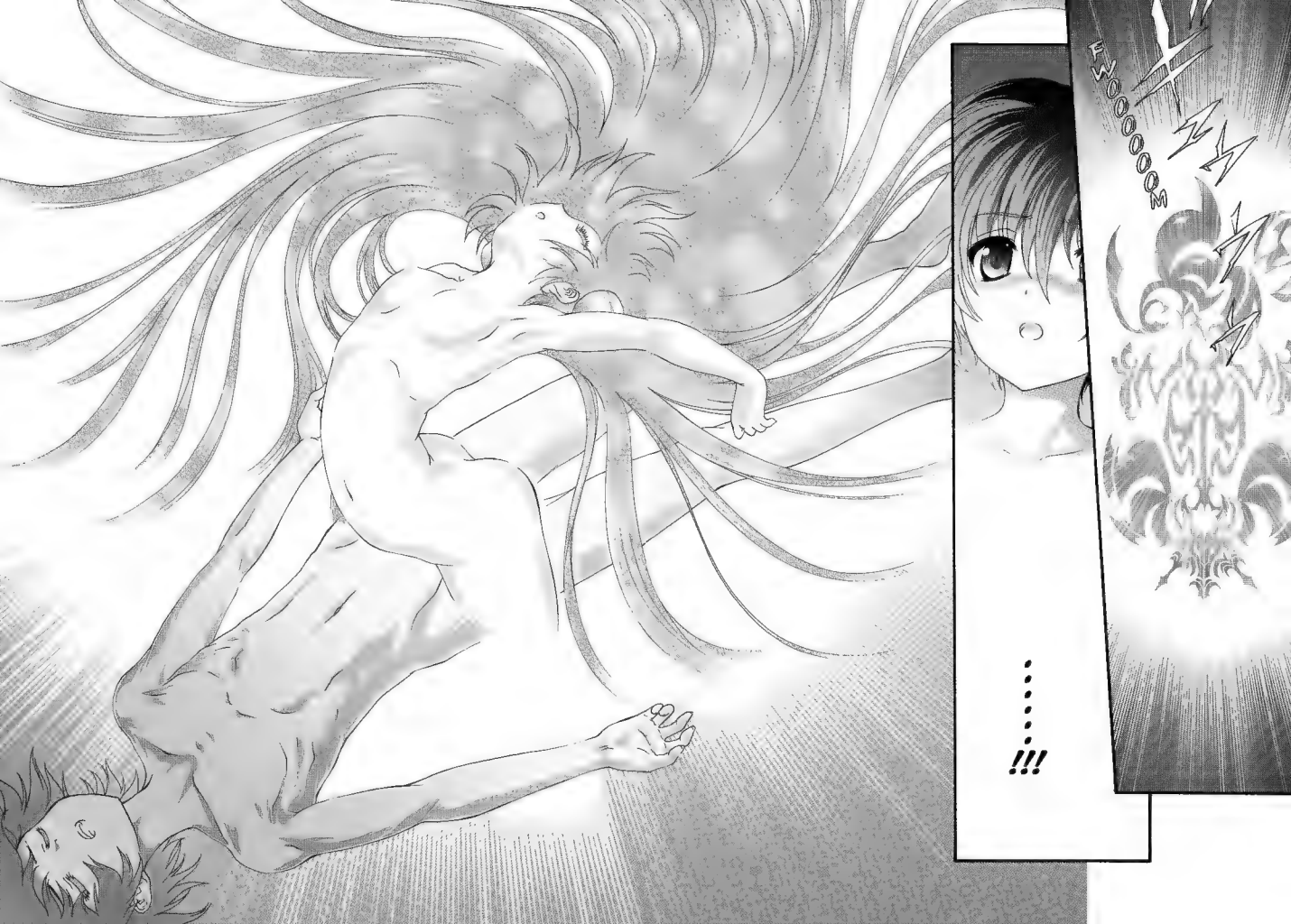
NOW OR NEVER --!
?!
KYAN!
TAKE THIS!!!
COOKY, AREN'T YOU?!
GRRRR!
HMPH!

CLATTER
WHAM
WHEW...
WOBBLE
NOW, LET'S SEE WHO--
GAH --!
CRRRACK
. . .
!!!

I CAN'T...!!
AAAAHHHHH!
SERIOUSLY--?!!
LIGHTEN SHOT UNLID
SHOVE
ROLL
CRACK
UNH!

WITHOUT EVER MEETING MY DRAGON...?
"OR MAYBE IT'S LONG SINCE DEAD."
LIKE THIS...?
IS THIS IT? AM I ABOUT TO DIE?

I CAN'T EVEN HELP IT BE BORN...!
CLENCH
I KNOW MY DRAGON'S ALIVE, BUT...
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
FLICKER


FWOOOOOOM
.....
!!!

FWOOOOOOM
.....
!!!

SMILE

SMILE

Chapter 1
Eco, the Dragons' Daughter
I...
I'M ALIVE...!
BUT...
BLUUUSH

N-NAVI...?
WHO'S SHE?
!
"I HAVEN'T BEEN BORN YET...
"BUT I'M TRUSTING YOU TO TAKE CARE OF ME WHEN I AM."
SHE LOOKS LIKE HER...
BUT A LOT YOUNGER.
HMM...?
ZZZ...
WHAT'S THIS BUMP ON HER HEAD...?!
SQUDSH
SQUDSH
SQUDSH

IT FEELS LIKE...
A BABY DRAGON'S HORN--!!!
AND...
SHE DID JUST COME OUT OF ME!
SO... WAIT. DOES THAT MEAN...
SHE'S MY STEED?!!
TWITCH
AH...
FULUL...
FWAAA...

ACK --?!!
VWOOM!!
FWAATCHOOO!
RUSTLE
YEP...
TNK TNK
THAT'S A DRAGON'S SNEEZE, ALL RIGHT.

BUT...
WHY WOULD A DRAGON HAVE A HUMAN SHAPE...?!!
BLINK
FWAAAH
.....!!

HOW DARE YOU GAWK AT A LADY WHILE SHE'S ASLEEP?!
I SHOULD CRUSH YOU LIKE A BUG!
WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?
GAAAAAH!
SWITTLE SWITTLE
.....?!

PLEASE, I'M BEGGING YOU...
PUT THAT ON!!
FWIP
!
HMPH!
ONLY HUMANS NEED TO HIDE THEIR HIDEOUS SHAPES BENEATH CLOTHING!
THE GLORIOUS TRIBE OF DRAGONS HAS NO SUCH NEED!
SO THERE!!
TOSS
MAYBE YOU DON'T NEED IT...
BUT I NEED YOU TO!
...!

PYEETCHOOO!
FWOOO
WSSSH
.....
HUH ...?
SHUFFLE
CLOTHING ALSO KEEPS YOU WARM.
LIGH!
SHIFFF
.....
.....
Royally pissed off!
JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR...
YOU'RE THE DRAGON WHO WAS LIVING INSIDE ME, RIGHT?

HMPH!
YES, I DID MAKE USE OF YOUR BODY TEMPORARILY.
YOU CALL THAT TEMPO-RARY?!
DEATH GLARE
I MEAN, I'M ALREADY A SENIOS--
LIRK!
TMP
DO I LOOK LIKE A RUN-OF-THE-MILL DRAGON TO YOU?
SO MUCH FOR THE PACT OF ALBION...
WELL, THE TWO OF US WILL SINK OR SWIM TOGETHER.
WE STILL SHARE A CONNEC-TION.
DRAGONS ACQUIRE ASTRAL ENERGY...
THROUGH BONDING WITH HUMANS, RIGHT?
YES. THAT'S HOW OUR PEOPLE HAVE CONTINUED TO SURVIVE.
HOW-EVER...

EEEP!
GLOWER
POINT
I AM NOT GOING TO THANK YOU!
ON THE CONTRARY, YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO ME!!
COME ON, I THINK I DESERVE AT LEAST A LITTLE THANKS.
AND CAN YOU PLEASE COVER UP?!
...?
HUH?
HEY...
HEY, YOU!
LIM...
HUH?
A-ABOUT MY NAME...
COME ON!
GIVE ME MY NAME, WILL YOU?!

I GET TO NAME YOU?
I was expecting to get chewed out
THAT'S HOW IT IS.
MY NAME HAS TO BE GIVEN BY THE PERSON I'M CONNECTED TO.
MUMBLE MUMBLE
WELL, DON'T YOU WORRY.
I'VE ALREADY THOUGHT OF ONE!
THERE WAS A GIRL NAMED ROSA MARIA...
WHO WAS THE FIRST PERSON IN HUMAN HISTORY ...
TO HELP AN ORPHAN DRAGON BE BORN.
PEOPLE CALLED HER A SAINT. SHE WAS THE FORE-MOTHER OF ALL BREED-ERS.
THE NAME I CHOOSE IS...
THE NAME SHE GAVE HER STEED.

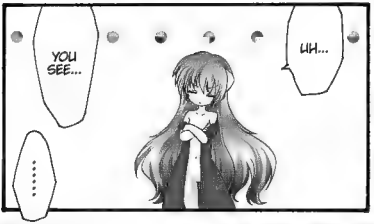
"ECO"...
ECO!!
UH...
DOES SHE LIKE IT...?

WHY DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH...?
YOU WERE JUST BORN.
HMM...
NOT BAD, CONSID-ERING.
I'LL FORGIVE YOU. ♪
BUT HEY, ECO...
I'M GLAD YOU LIKE THE NAME!
Whew...!
THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DRAGONS AND HUMANS! YOU'RE ALL DULL AND DENSE!
Heh heh!
UM, WHAT?
DENSE?!

……?!
ECO?
HISSI
DRIFT
DRAGON-WEISS...
EVERYTHING THE MEMBERS OF THE TRIBE NEED TO KNOW IS AUTOMATICALLY CONVEYED BETWEEN GENERATIONS.
THERE'S NO NEED TO LEARN IT.

That's the burning question!
WELL...
SO WHY ARE YOU SHAPED LIKE A HUMAN, ECO?!

I HAD NO IDEA DRAGONS HAD THAT KIND OF POWER!
THAT'S INCREDI-BLE--!


UH...
YOU SEE...
.....

I KNOW THE INFOR-MATION'S THERE...
BUT WHEN I TRY TO LOOK, I CAN'T SEE IT.

DARN IT! I DON'T KNOW, OKAY?!!
GAAAAAH!
I'LL STOMP YOU FLAT!!!
YIKES!
Huh?!

THAT GIVES YOU A CHANCE TO GROW!
.....
I'M ASH!
AND I'LL DO MY VERY BEST TO RAISE YOU WELL!
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING FOR?!!
IT IS THERE! IT IS!!
HEY!
HEH!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
YOU WERE JUST BORN.
IT'S BETTER IF YOU DON'T KNOW EVERYTHING RIGHT AWAY.

FLAP
FLAP
NICE TO MEET YOU!!
!
HEY, THAT'S --!
ASH BLAKE!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING HERE?!

SO YOU'RE ASH BLAKE, HMM?
C-COUNCIL PRESIDENT...!
THE RACE FINISHED QUITE SOME TIME AGO. PRINCESS SYLVIA WON.
BUT THEN WE DISCOVERED YOU WERE MISSING.

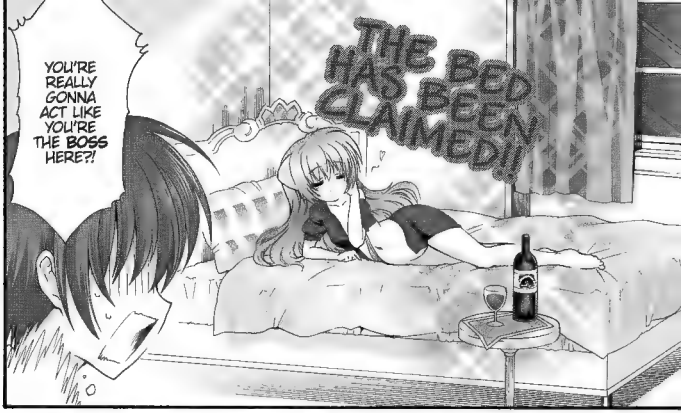
HMM...
THIS DRAGON ISN'T HALF BAD!!
MY CÚCHULAINN KNEW EXACTLY WHERE TO FIND YOU.
HERE'S THE INTER-ESTING THING.

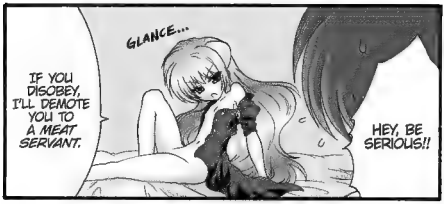
LET'S GO, ECO.
UH-HUH. THANKS FOR THE LIFT.
NOW... GET IN THE BASKET!
?!
JUST A MINUTE !!!
7H-THUMP
WHIP
SO LET'S BE VERY CLEAR ABOUT SOMETHING.
I THINK THERE'S BEEN A MISUNDER-STANDING.
JMP

O-OKAY, CALM DOWN.
TH-THMP

REMEM-BER...
YOU ARE NOT MY KEEPER!
YOU CAN'T RIDE HER LIKE THIS...

I AM...
YOUR KEEPER !!!
DU-DUN
SO...


THE BED HAS BEEN CLAIMED!!
YOU'RE REALLY GONNA ACT LIKE YOU'RE THE BOSS HERE?!


GLANCE...
IF YOU DISOBEY, I'LL DEMOTE YOU TO A MEAT SERVANT.
HEY, BE SERIOUS!!

WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO SLEEP?!
THERE'S A FLOOR, ISN'T THERE?
WHAT?!

SO I'M ONLY GOOD FOR FEEDING YOU?!
FWSSH
HUH...?
A MEAT SERVANT BRINGS FOOD WHEN THE MASTER IS HUNGRY!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT YOU'RE DOING?
THIS IS THE BOYS' DORM!

SUCH A PESKY SLAVE.
AT LEAST LET ME DO AS I PLEASE WHILE I SLEEP!
AHHH...
FWUMP
WHY ARE YOU TAKING OFF YOUR CLOTHES?!!
HOLD IT!

SHE LOOKS SO INNO-CENT WHEN SHE'S SLEEPING...
.....

TUCK
GOOD GRIEF...
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS UNTIL THE ACADEMY DECIDES HOW TO HANDLE ECO.
HOW ARE THINGS GOING TO BE FROM NOW ON...?
THUMP
HUH?!
SUNSOORH

HUH?!
ECO ?!!
YOU LOOK...
AHHHH...
TH-THUD
SOO-OOO...
DELI-CIOUS...!

CHOMP
ぷう
ACK --!
SHE'S...
SHE'S GIVING ME A BABY DRAGON'S LOVE BITES?
CHOMP CHOMP
GUH... COME ON, WAKE UP!
HUFF HUFF
GETTING LOVE BITES FROM A STEED IS A NICE THOUGHT...
BUT...
YOU'RE SHAPED LIKE A GIRL!

OH, MAN...
I THINK I'M GONNA MELT.
NIP
NIP
NIP
?

DAAARGH!
CHOMP
CHOMP
OW! OW! QUIT IT!
ECOOO!!
I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA DIE!!
zzz...
throb throb
GASP GASP
SHE'S TEARING ME TO SHREDS!!
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!
SHE'S GOING TO BE A PROBLEM CHILD!!!
zzzz...

KNOCK KNOCK
Chapter III
The Town of Axsullivan
KNOCK KNOCK
UGH... WHO'S AT THE DOOR?
COME ON, IT'S A HOLIDAY...
RAY-MOND, IS THAT YOU?
I HAD A ROUGH DAY YES-TERDAY...
SO JUST LET ME SLEEP IN--
HUH?!

EVEN ON A HOLIDAY, YOU SHOULDN'T SLEEP TOO LATE...
ASH BLAKE.
I DON'T LIKE TO BE ADDRESSED FORMALLY.
CALL ME REBECCA.
UH... OKAY?
JUST USE MY NAME.
B-BUT THIS IS A BOYS' DORM!!
C-COUNCIL PRESIDENT--!
BOLT

I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE DRAGON. IS IT AWAKE?
WELL...
...!
I LET MYSELF IN, ASH.
MMM...
H-HEY, MAX. YOU'RE HERE TOO?
AH. THE NEWBORN DRAGON, ECO.
GRAB
"HEY"?! IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?!
DO YOU THINK THIS IS ANY KIND OF WAY TO BEHAVE?!!

I TRUST IT'S THERE FOR A REASON.
THERE'S A MAT BESIDE THE BED.
THEY DIDN'T SLEEP TOGETHER.
WAIT. JUDGING BY THE ROOM...
WELL...
ALL RIGHT. THE STUDENT COUNCIL WILL PROVIDE CLOTHES FOR ECO.
I DIDN'T KNOW SHE LAUGHED LIKE THIS.
HA HA! THAT'S GOOD.
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE, JUST ASK.
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
SO THE PROUD DRAGON TRIBE DOESN'T NEED CLOTHES, HMM?

THE TEACHERS TOLD US THE OUTCOME OF THEIR MEETING ABOUT ECO.
SHIVER
THIS MORNING...
THE ACADEMY MADE A FORMAL REQUEST TO HAVE...
DR. CORNWELL EXAMINE ECO.
BUT THERE IS...
ONE MORE THING.
THE DOCTOR IS EXTREMELY BUSY, SO A TIME HASN'T BEEN CHOSEN YET.
DOKE
DOKE
I-I SEE...
DR. CORNWELL IS THE LEADING EXPERT IN DRAGON RESEARCH...
AND HAS A LAB HERE IN ANSULLIVAN.
HUH?
SOMEONE THAT FAMOUS?

SO THAT'S SETTLED. NOW, ECO WILL BE LIVING IN YOUR ROOM.
BE RESPONSIBLE AND TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER!
DON'T FORGET, DOG!
I'M ALLOWING YOU TO SHOW ME AROUND! IT'S A PRIVILEGE!
HURRY UP!
THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID, BUT...
UGH, THIS IS HEAVY!
DRAG
HA HA...
BEFORE LEAVING...
Since you want to get out and see the town
Let's go for a walk!
THWACK
You sound like you're walking a dog
OOOK...!
TUDGE
TUDGE

SOMETHING OVER THERE SMELLS DELICIOUS!!
I CAN'T HELP IT!!
GROOOOOWR
!
A SOUND BEFITTING A DRAGON!
A CREPE SHOP? WELL...
HMPH!
I GUESS WE HAVEN'T HAD BREAKFAST YET.
DRAGONS NEED TO EAT FIVE TIMES A DAY!!
TWO ANSAR CRÊPES, COMING UP!!
WOW...!
IF IT ISN'T TASTY, I'LL CRUSH THIS WHOLE PLACE!
chatter
chatter
PLEASE DON'T DO THAT.

SHE LOOKS LIKE A NORMAL GIRL.
DRESSED LIKE THAT...
CHOMP! ♡

DO YOU WANT MINE TOO?
REALLY ...?
DROOL
SURE.
I GUESS THINGS ARE FINE THE WAY THEY ARE.
WELL...
...?!
AH--!
IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN!
I CAN FEEL SOMEONE WATCHING US--!
HEY, ECO--
U-UH... OH...
FLINCH

N...
HUH?!
NOT THERE...
I'M... I'M BURNING UP...
ECO?!!
DO SOME-THING!
"SOME-THING"? LIKE WHAT ...?!
OH-HH...
ER...
HEY! YOU!
YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED, DOING THAT IN PUBLIC!
I-I'M LOSING MY MIND!
!

HOW DARE YOU?
SNARL
ARE YOU TRYING TO DISGRACE THE TOWN OF ANSULLIVAN?!
WAIT A SEC! THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM HERE!
P-PRINCESS?!
AND COSETTE, HER LADY-IN-WAITING...!!
UH, YEAH, A COUPLE OF CREPES.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT
OH!
DID YOU...
HAPPEN TO GIVE HER SOMETHING WITH ANSAR IN IT? THE HERB?
ANSAR AFFECTS DRAGONS LIKE ALCOHOL!
IT'S MUCH TOO STRONG FOR A NEWBORN.

Fwoo
SHE'LL BE JUST FINE IN A LITTLE WHILE.
THANK YOU, COSETTE.
UNBELIEV-ABLE!! HAV-EN'T YOU LEARNED ANYTHING IN CLASS?!
NOW, NOW. I SEEM TO RECALL YOU GIVING LANCELOT ANSAR TEA WHEN HE WAS LITTLE...

THE PAST IS IRRELE-VANT!
Fu fu fu.
.....
YOU SUR-PRISED ME YES-TERDAY.
FIRST YOU VANISHED DURING THE RACE, AND THEN...
YOU WERE WITH A MOSTLY-NAKED GIRL!
IF I HADN'T TOLD YOU SHE WAS A DRAGON, YOU WOULD HAVE...
♡
IT WAS SO ADORABLE!
Such behavior!
Err..
ROLL
ROLL
I TOLD YOU TO STOP TALKING ABOUT IT!

FWISH
HA... HA... HA-TCHOO!
WHAT A HAPPY-GO-LUCKY DRAGON...
HMM? LOOK AT HER.
!!
STRINGS ...
DON'T LOOK!
AAARGH!
YIKES!
PWAP

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
YOU DULL, DENSE HUMAN!
TWIST
HMPH.
THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS.
EDGING CLOSER
H-HEY, YOU TWO...
ASH BLAKE!
I HAVE SOME-THING TO SAY!
?!

TURN
WE ALWAYS OWN UP TO OUR MISTAKES!
IN MY FAMILY ...
PRIN-CESS...?
"IT'S PROBABLY AS USELESS AS ITS MASTER! OR MAYBE IT'S LONG SINCE DEAD."
WHAT I SAID TO YOU BEFORE...
THAT WAS WRONG.
LISTEN UP, DOG! YOU DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIAL FEELINGS FOR THAT FEMALE, DO YOU?!
I'M THE ONLY ONE ALLOWED TO MISTREAT YOU!
PINCH
NYOOOO! (NOOOO)
PINCH
OW!!
.....

I CAN SEE IT JUST FINE!!
UH... THE BATH-ROOM IS--
I NEED TO GO TINKLE.
STRAIGHTEN
HMPH!
HOLD IT.
ARE YOU PLANNING TO GO IN WITH HER?
GRAB
HANG ON!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO--?
STOMP STOMP
Come on, now.
UGH!
.....
Is she okay...?
THAT WASN'T THE PRIN-CESS, WAS IT?
SO WHEN I FELT LIKE SOMEONE WAS WATCHING US...
WAIT, WHAT?! ME?!
AT TIMES LIKE THIS, A PRINCESS SHOULD OFFER GUIDANCE TO HER SUBJECTS!
♪
LET'S GO!

.....
THEY'RE TAKING AN AWFULLY LONG TIME...
I'M PROBABLY OVER-THINKING IT.
ECO'S GONE !!!
I FOUND HER BERET ON THE FLOOR INSIDE...!
ASH BLAKE !!!
ECO ?!!

AND...
I ALSO FOUND THESE.
A-ARE THESE...
SHARDS OF DRAGON CRYS-TALS?
CRYS-TALLIZED DRAGON MAGIC.
HUMANS USE IT TO CHANNEL THE ORACLE.
SOMEONE MUST HAVE USED THE ORACLE...
TO KIDNAP ECO--!
IT WASN'T ME WHO WAS BEING WATCHED! IT WAS ECO!
.....!
DAMMIT --!
WAIT!!!
DON'T CHARGE IN BLINDLY.
STOP AND GET A FEEL FOR WHERE ECO IS.
.....?

A BREEDER'S CONNECTION TO THEIR DRAGON CAN'T BE SEVERED THAT EASILY.
I SEE.
WHA...
FWIP
YOUR STAR MARK LINKS YOU TO HER THROUGH THE ASTRAL FLOW.
THAT'S YOUR STAR MARK?!
MY STAR MARK!!!!
THANK YOU, PRINCESS.
I DON'T REALLY LIKE THE LOOK OF IT, BUT YEAH, THAT'S IT.

WAIT FOR ME, ECO!
YOU'RE MY STEED...
KIIIII
AND YOU'VE FINALLY BEEN BORN!!
I'LL COME FIND YOU!

HUH?
JOLT
WHERE AM I?
WH...
TIGHT
WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?!!

HOW DARE YOU DO THIS TO ME?!
STRUGGLE STRUGGLE
WELL, AREN'T YOU A BRAVE ONE?
A DRAGON BEING BORN WITH A HUMAN SHAPE...
IS AWFULLY PECULIAR, DON'T YOU THINK?
WHO ARE YOU?!!
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

!
SO YOU KIDNAPPED ME BECAUSE YOU KNOW I'M A DRAGON?
THAT'S RIGHT.
NOW, WHY DON'T YOU EXPLAIN WHY YOU HAVE THAT BODY?
I SEE.
HMPH!
I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT I DON'T KNOW!
FWISH
IN THAT CASE...
I'LL HAVE TO DIG A LITTLE DEEPER FOR MY ANSWERS.

H-HUH?
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
TO THE STUDY OF BIOLOGY.
VIVISEC-TION IS FUNDA-MENTAL...
HEY, ASH...

ARE YOU SURE ECO IS IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
MY STAR MARK SURE SEEMS TO THINK SO.
YOU CAN'T SEE IT GLOWING, HUH?
YOU CAN'T SUMMON A DRAGON RIGHT IN TOWN, CAN YOU?!!
WHAT'S THIS?
THIS TOMB-STONE HAS...
A HUGE PIECE OF DRAGON CRYSTAL SET IN IT.
IN A RUNDOWN MANSION LIKE THIS...? THAT'S STRANGE...
...!
YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD. ARE YOU SCARED?
NO!
HOW DARE YOU...!!
COME ON, LET'S GO!!!
STOMP
STOMP
That's my princess! ♡
THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN IS I CALL LANCELOT AND TORCH THIS PLACE!!

HEE HEE! YOU'RE SO ADORABLE...
PRINCESS.
DASH
ECO!!
WAIT! DON'T LEAVE ME HERE!!
MY LEFT ARM IS GETTING HOTTER.
EEEK!
IT LOOKS LIKE ECO'S IN THE BASEMENT.
CREAK

IS IT THAT DOOR--?
FLASH
MOVE! I'LL BREAK IT DOWN!!!
ORACLE LIGHTNING BLAST!!!
BOOOOOM
CLATTER
CLATTER

ECO !!!
MY, YOU'RE A PUSHY GROUP, AREN'T YOU?

!!
WAIT!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING TO MY STEED?!
GRRR!
SIMPLE
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?!
THIS IS...
DR. ANGELA CORN-WELL!!!
HUH...?
HER ...?!
AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS SIMPLY DOING AS THE ACADEMY ASKED.
PERHAPS I WAS A BIT TOO FORCEFUL.
A BIT?!
YOU WERE GOING AT HER WITH A SCALPEL!!!

WHA--?!
ACTU-ALLY, NO.
THAT'S THE BEST WAY TO DISCERN HER TRUE NATURE.
HOW ELSE WOULD I DISSECT HER?
FWOOM
I, SYLVIA LAUTREA-MONT, SUMMON THEE!!
COME HITHER, LANCE-LOT!!!
DRAGONS ARE THE SYMBOL OF OUR KNIGHTDOM!
I WON'T ALLOW ANYONE TO DISSECT THEM. NOT EVEN YOU, DR. CORN-WELL!!

KIIIIIIIIN
SILENCE
WH-WHAT THE...?!
HEE HEE!
NOT EVEN A PRIN-CESS.
BUT I WON'T ALLOW ANYONE TO INTERFERE WITH MY WORK.
I'LL USE THE POWER THAT'S ALREADY HERE TO TAKE YOU DOWN!
IN THAT CASE...
THE TOMB-STONE!!!
YOU CAN CALL TO YOUR DRAGON ALL YOU LIKE...
THIS MANSION IS...
PROTECT-ED BY AN ORACLE FIELD.

UNH!
ECO!
ORACLE INVOCATION!!!
MMMM
THIS MAKES THE MAGIC THAT BROKE DOWN THE DOOR LOOK LIKE NOTHING!!
CRIMSON DRAGON BREATH!!!
VOOOOM

PRINCESS, DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS OVER-KILL?!
ECO...
CRACKLE
Chapter IV
The Scarlet Empress of Ausulfivan
YOU TWO...
IT'S REALLY HARD TO CON-TROL!!
I CAN'T HELP IT!!

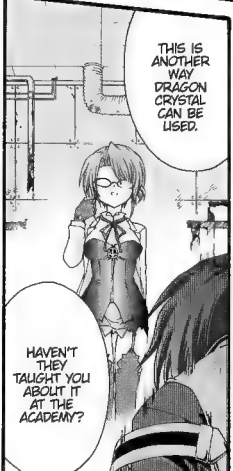
I-IT CAN'T BE...
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO ARGUE.
SHE ISN'T EVEN SINGED ?!
IT'S BRAVE OF YOU TO CHALLENGE ME WITH THE ORACLE--- OR FOOLISH.
THE DOCTOR IS A WELL-KNOWN MASTER OF THE ORACLE.
DARK MOTHER'S LULLABY OF THE NIGHT!!

A MAGIC WARD?!!
HOW COULD I BE SO... CARELESS ...?
DAMMIT ...!
VOOOOM
!!
TOPPLE
PRIN-CESS?!!

ASH...
CRUMPLE
TAKE CARE... OF THE PRIN- CESS...

S-SO... TIRED...
ARRGH ...

DAMN ...
SLUMP


THIS IS ANOTHER WAY DRAGON CRYSTAL CAN BE USED.
HAVEN'T THEY TAUGHT YOU ABOUT IT AT THE ACADEMY?

CO- SETTE !!!

HEY! YOU!!
DON'T YOU DARE FAINT ON ME AFTER COMING THIS FAR! I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!!
THAT'S RIGHT...
I WON'T LET HER HURT ECO!!!
SHUUUU
TH-TH-TH-MP

WH-WHAT?
HOW CAN HE BE STAND-ING...?!!
!!
MY, IS THAT A STAR MARK?!!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE SO LARGE...
IS ECO'S POWER...
FLOWING TO HIM THROUGH HIS STAR MARK...?!!

I DON'T CARE HOW IT WORKS!
WHOOOOSH
!!

BROOF
THE MAGIC WARD --!!
CRIIISH
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US...
TMP
MY STEED AND I ARE LEAVING RIGHT NOW.

LUNGE
ECO?!!
SNAP
UNHH...
.....
sniff
sniff
YOU'RE LATE!

GRRR!
UMM... THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT HER.
ZZZ...
HEE!
COSETTE, I THOUGHT YOU FAINTED...!
POW POW
Ow!
HEE HEE!
YOU WERE GREAT, ASH.
I LIKE THEM.
OUCH! DON'T PINCH ME!
HEH HEH...
WHAT AN INTERESTING BUNCH.

HEY, ASH!
I GOT ECO BACK, BUT...
WHAT?
ARE YOU TRAINING ECO IN BED?
SLUMP
(GOSSIP) (GOSSIP)
.....
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT!
AND... ANYWAY, SHE'S A DRAGON!
SWOOSH
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE...! SETTLE DOWN NOW, PLEASE. ♡

WHOA!
PROFESSOR SILVERSTON HAS RETIRED, AND I'LL BE TAKING OVER THIS CLASS.
Unbe—
She's liev—
able!
Woo hoo! hoo!
HUH ...?
HELLO!
I'M YOUR NEW TEACHER, ANGELA CORNWELL.
WASN'T PROFESSOR SILVERSTON SUPPOSED TO--?
UH-HUH.
HE WAS SUPPOSED TO RETIRE A YEAR FROM NOW.
UGH..
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPEN-ING.

TURNING UP AT OUR SCHOOL...
THE DAY AFTER DOING SOMETHING SO AWFUL...?
SHE MUST BE AFTER ECO.
I THINK SHE'S INTERESTED IN MY STAR MARK, TOO.
THAT'S IT FOR TODAY, EVERY-ONE!
SEE YOU AGAIN TOMOR-ROW.
HEY, ASH.
ARE YOU FREE? WANNA GO SOME-PLACE?
.....
I won't be late!
Yes, ma'am!
TAP TAP

CLATTER
WHAT ?!!
THE STUDENT COUNCIL PRESI-DENT?!
No way!!
AWWW, MAN! HOW COME YOU GET TO GO?!

SORRY, CAN'T.
I'VE GOT TO GO SEE THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

PRETTY ADMIRABLE FOR A PRINCESS.
NORMALLY, PEOPLE LIKE HER LEAVE THE DAILY CARE OF DRAGONS TO THE GROOMS.

AAAAHHH!
CLATTER
EXCUSE ME.
YOU ALREADY HAVE A GORGEOUS GIRL FOR A DRAGON!
I'M JEALOUS!!

AREN'T YOU TAKING YOUR BAG?
I'M GOING TO FEED LANCELOT NOW.

COME IN.
OKAY, NOW. CALM DOWN...
SO, IS REBECCA GOING TO PUNISH YOU WITH QUESTIONS OR WITH WORDS?!
SWOON
SWOON
I'M SO NOT ANSWERING THAT.
SEE YA.

PLEASE HAVE A SEAT.
AS BEAUTIFUL AS A MARBLE STATUE...
REBECCA RANDALL, CALLED THE SCARLET EMPRESS-- AN ARK DRAGONAR.
SHE'S FAMOUS THROUGHOUT THE KNIGHT-DOM, NOT JUST HERE IN ANSULLIVAN.
HEY, ASH.
YOU FINALLY STOPPED BY!

PEOPLE SAY THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL OF ANSULLIVAN...
HAS EVEN MORE POWER THAN THE MAYOR...!
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SO NERVOUS.
?!
OH... UH...
IF YOU WANT TO GET TO KNOW SOMEONE...
WHY'RE YOU SITTING THERE?
THE BEST WAY IS TO SIT BESIDE THEM.
IT'S GOOD ADVICE FOR DATING.

HUH?!
THERE, YOU'VE ALREADY LEARNED SOMETHING.
YOU WON'T MAKE THE MISTAKE OF SITTING ACROSS FROM A GIRL.
A DATE IS...
BEYOND MY WILDEST DREAMS.
HMM.
SO...
NO ONE REALIZES HOW VALUABLE YOU ARE.
AL-THOUGH ...
I'M NOT ENTIRELY SURE MYSELF.
I DON'T KNOW PRECISELY HOW VALU-ABLE YOU ARE.
BUT STILL, YOU'RE PRETTY SMOOTH, AREN'T YOU?
HUH?
WHEN DID YOU AND COSETTE BECOME SO FRIENDLY?
UH...
YOU WERE SEEN TALKING TO HER.

"PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE WHAT HAPPENED HERE."
"THE PRINCESS HAS APPEARANCES TO MAINTAIN."
ER...
I DON'T LIKE...
THAT YOU'RE KEEPING THINGS FROM ME.
N-NO, THAT'S NOT--
OKAY, OKAY?! I'LL TELL YOU!!
GOOD, THEN.
IT MAKES ME THINK THAT MAYBE...
I DON'T MATTER MUCH TO YOU.

I SEE.
I HAD NO IDEA THAT SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED.
P-PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE...!
I UNDERSTAND.
BUT WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT DR. CORNWELL?
GREAT RESEARCHER OR NOT, THIS IS TOO EXTREME.
I'M GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT SHE LOVED DRAGONS AS A CHILD...
AND WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO BECOME A BREEDER.
BUT DURING THE ORPHAN CEREMONY, THE MOTHER DRAGON DIDN'T CHOOSE HER.
SHE WAS DEVASTATED.

THE ORPHAN CEREMONY...
ACTUALLY, I DON'T REMEMBER IT VERY WELL.
WELL, FOR NOW WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON HER.
OH, ONE MORE THING.
ABOUT THOSE SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE YOU MET IN THE FOREST--
WHO WERE THEY?
"MILGALISS" IS A STRANGE NAME FOR SOMEONE FROM THE EMPIRE, BUT...
IT COULD BE SOME SORT OF CODE NAME FOR AN INFORMANT.
BUT WHY ARE THEY IN ANSULLIVAN?
WE'RE A SCHOOL FOR BREEDERS! WE'RE NOT MILITARY OR ANYTHING!
IT'S TRUE THAT BREEDERS CAN GO ON TO DO THINGS OTHER THAN RIDE DRAGONS TO BATTLE.
BUT...

THE XENOGLAVIA WAR...
WE ALSO CAN'T IGNORE...
IT BEGAN WHEN ZEPHAROS ATTACKED CHEVRON FROM THE NORTH.
THE FACT THAT THE WAR GAVE THE EMPIRE REASON TO FEAR ANSULLIVAN.
BUT THEN THE KING OF CHEVRON SECRETLY SENT A MESSENGER TO THE KNIGHTS OF LAUTREAMONT, AND...
CHEVRON'S KNIGHTS WERE OVERWHELMED BY THE EMPIRE'S MECHANICAL WEAPONS...
LED BY PALADIN BERTRAM, LAUTREAMONT'S ARK DRAGONAR KNIGHTS DROVE THE EMPIRE OUT.
AND IT APPEARED THAT THE EMPIRE'S VICTORY WAS CERTAIN.
AN ARMISTICE TREATY WAS SIGNED, AND THE WAR CAME TO AN END.

FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE...
ANSULLIVAN IS A TRAINING GROUND FOR WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.
NO ...!!
DON'T BE SO SCARED, ASH.
ARE YOU FORGETTING WHO ANSULLIVAN'S STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT IS?
AS LONG AS CÚCHULAINN AND I ARE AROUND...
AND I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU TO ASSIST US.
WE WILL PROTECT ANSULLIVAN.
HUH ...?

ME TOO?
YES, YOU TOO.
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL?
WHAT?!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF POWER--!
I HEAR THAT...
YOU'RE KNOWN AS "THE MAN WHO CAN RIDE ANY DRAGON."
W-WELL, THAT'S ...!
DON'T BE SO HUMBLE.
LET ME BE BLUNT.
NOT EVEN I CAN RIDE SOMEONE ELSE'S STEED.

I WANT YOU.

A CLASS II...
THE ALARM...?!!
BUT I--
VRRRRRRRRR!!
CLASS II...?!
EMER GEN- CY?!!
THAT MEANS A DRAGON'S GONE BER- SERK AND BROKEN OUT OF THE DRAGON QUARTERS!!

OVER THERE!!
IT MUST BE THAT STRADA ...!!!
RE-BEC-CA!!
DON'T WORRY. THIS HAPPENS PERIODICALLY WITH SUCH YOUNG DRAG-ONS. TIME WILL TAKE CARE OF IT.
THE GROOMS WILL HANDLE THE SITUA-TION.
.....
WHAT?!!
HEY, THAT'S --!

FWSSH
YOU!
STOP!
DASH
THAT'S...
THE PRIN-CESS ?!!

I'M GLAD YOU HAVE SUCH A GOOD AP-PETITE...
LANCELOT.
Chapter V
The Ark of the Scarlet Empress
THERE'S MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM.

LISTEN! OUR NEXT GOAL IS...
ARK DRAGONAR.
RUB
RUB
I COULD NEVER LET ANYONE ELSE TAKE CARE OF YOU.
ON THE DAY OF MY ORPHAN CEREMONY...
I WAS CRYING IN THE FOREST.
I DID SOMETHING STUPID AND HURT MY FOOT.
.....!
MY STAR MARK IS...
RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF MY CHEST.

HEY, YOU!
ARE YOU HURT?
SO I LEFT THE CASTLE, BUT...
I'D MADE UP MY MIND TO BECOME A BREEDER...
ALL RIGHT, THEN.
I'LL CARRY YOU! LET'S GO FIND THE MOTHER DRAGON!!
.....
THAT'S RIGHT.
I PROMISED HIM...
THAT I'D BECOME AN OUTSTANDING KNIGHT.

IF I MAKE ANY CHOICES UNWORTHY OF MY ROLE AS YOUR MASTER...
I WANT YOU TO LET ME KNOW.
RMBL RMBL
RUB RUB
YOU'RE SO CUTE--!
A DRAG-ON'S GONE WILD!!!

GROOM TEAM!!
WE'VE SURROUNDED THE DRAGON!!
GOOD! HOLD FORMATION UNTIL HE SETTLES--
?!
DART
A STUDENT?!
I'LL CONTROL THIS DRAGON!!!

HURT?!
BUT HE COULD DO IT!
STOP! YOU'LL GET HURT!!
RUSH
AND HE PUT ME IN HIS DEBT!
HE CAN CONTROL OTHER PEOPLE'S STEEDS...
ASH BLAKE...
THE ONLY STUDENT HERE WHO CHALLENGES ME!
HOW CAN A KID LIKE HIM DO IT...
WHEN I CAN'T?!!

WHAT CAN WE DO...?
UH...
STAND BACK!!
AAAAHHH!!
GWAH
UNHH...

I SUMMON THEE...
CÚCHU-LAINN!!!
WOOOSH
REBECCA!!!
THMP

THE SCARLET EMPRESS --!!
I, REBECCA RANDALL, COMMAND THEE!
GIVE ME THE ARK...
CREATED IN THY IMAGE!!!

GHRRAAAAOH
THE ARK!!
THAT'S...
FLING
EEEEK!
DA-DUN
VSH

TOSS
OOOF!
HUH?!
TAKE THE PRIN-CESS!!
ASH!
WHIRL
COME HITHER...
MAGIC SPEAR THAT EVER FLIES TRUE!!!

WHOSE NAME IS...
GAE BOLG !!!
FLARE

PRINCESS...
PRINCESS...!
THE BOY I MET... BACK THEN?
PRINCESS!!
WHO'S THERE...?
WHOA!
SHOVE
LET GO OF ME!!
ASH...
BLAKE ...!!
I HAD TO!!
WHY THE HECK DID YOU DO THAT?!
TCH...

DASH
P-PRIN-CESS?!!
DAMN! WHAT'S WITH HER?
DON'T WORRY, ASH.
LEAVE HER TO ME.
YOU CAN JUST...
THERE'S NO WAY...
YOU COULD EVER UNDER-STAND!!!

HEY!! ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME, DOG?!!
THE PRINCESS WASN'T IN CLASS...
I SAID...
A TASTY CREPE IS CALLING MY NAME!
ECO NEVER CHANGES..
THAT'S EASY TO SAY, BUT...

WHAM
EEEP!
OH!
OUCH...
S-SORRY ABOUT THAT!
A FLOWER VENDOR?
IT'S OKAY.
AH!
YOU...!
HUH...?

NOOOOO!
DASH
WHAT--?
WHAT HAP-PENED?!!
AH!
(gasp)
(gasp)
THMP
YOU ALWAYS FIND TROUBLE, DON'T YOU?
RE-BEC-CA!
AND THE PRIN-CESS ?!!

SO THIS IS YOUR...
Peach Pony Cafe
GAB GAB GAB
FAVORITE SPOT, REBECCA...?
UH-HUH. IT'S A NICE PLACE.
The food's good, the servings are big.
HUH...
NOT WHAT I WOULD'VE EXPECTED.
MAYBE EVEN SURPRISING
ANOTHER IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION IS THAT STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS PAY HALF PRICE.
THEN HURRY UP AND ORDER!
I DIDN'T GET TO GO TO THE CREPE SHOP
BY THE WAY...
ECO, BE POLITE!

THE SCARLET EMPRESS
THE ICE BLUE PRINCESS
WHY ARE YOU TWO HERE TOGETHER?
Heh heh.
BE-CAUSE...
I ASKED HER OUT!

SLIDE
WITH THIS.
OH!
THE "DATE FOR A DAY!" TICKET THAT WAS A PRIZE IN THE FESTIVAL!
THAT'S WHY SHE SAID THAT THE OTHER DAY...

glance
fwp
AS PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL, I MUST KEEP MY WORD.
AND THE SAME GOES FOR THE PRINCESS, WHO WON THE RACE.

I WANTED TO TALK TO HER ABOUT THE EVENT EARLIER, BUT...
SHE'S BEEN LIKE THIS EVER SINCE.
I SUSPECT SHE BE-HAVED THAT WAY...
BECAUSE SHE FEELS COMPETITIVE ABOUT YOU.
.....
THANKS FOR WAITING.
OOOH ...!
WAFT
HEY, PRIN-CESS...
WAS IT BECAUSE OF ME?
WAS WHAT BECAUSE OF YOU?
HEE HEE!
PLEASE EAT AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE.
FLICK

STAND
NO!
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF!!!
WHY WOULD I BOTHER THINKING ABOUT YOU?!!
UM... THE THING WHEN THE YOUNG DRAGON--
RUMBLE
!!
MM...
IMPRESSIVE THUNDER--!

IT'S STRANGE...
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
FOR A STORM TO ROLL IN SO QUICKLY.
HEY!
ECO?!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
ジョルト

IT'S...
SOMETHING MALI-CIOUS...
ECO!!
GRRR!
HEY, WAIT!
DASH

KA-BOOOOOM
LOOOOOM
WHAT THE...?!
WH...
NOOOO!
EEEEEEK!

A DRAGON ?!!
オオオオオオオオオオオン
WHAT A REVOLTING STENCH!!
SHLOP
IS ITS FLESH... ROTTING?!
ECO !!!

GAH
IT'S DANGEROUS!!
STOP, ECO!
GLARE
SHLIP
GET BACK, YOU SWINE!!!
TOSS
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?!!

ECOOO!!!
EEEEEEEEK!
SHRRRRP
Wrap
Bind

GRAB
SQUEEZE
UGH...
DARN ...!

WHSSSSSSH
ECO!
DAMMIT! WHAT CAN I DO...?!
!!
FWOOOOOM

I TOLD YOU NOT TO LOOK SO WORRIED...
HOW MANY PEOPLE...
plink
SAG
JUST DIED FROM THAT...?
N-NO...
ASH.
OH!

AS LONG AS I'M HERE...
I PROMISE TO PROTECT ANSULLIVAN!
HOORAY!
REBECCA!!!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF DRAGON YOU ARE...
BUT THAT'S ENOUGH OUT OF YOU.
COME HITHER!!!
MAGIC SPEAR THAT EVER FLIES TRUE!!!
SHWIP
KJIIIIII
WHAM
DEFEN-SIVE MAGIC?!
HOW COULD THE DRAGON DO THAT?!!

DRAAAH
AHH--!
REBEC-CA...!
BRISH
BRISH
VSSSSH

YES --!
BREAK THROUGH IT!!!
BRI
ISH
SHE DID IT!!
YAY!
.....!
VOOOOM
.....?!
IT'S NOT GOING DOWN ...?

IT'S REGENERATING ITSELF...!
POP
POP
POP
NO, IT'S EVEN WORSE THAN THAT!
WH...
DOOO

Sorry, couldn't color this
Since you've only read the first volume, you may find you get a slightly different impression from here on out
I tried to use a lot of screentones. Her hair came out a bit stark, but...
I was originally planning to draw tentacles, but I ran out of time.
Eco Early Version
From now on, corpses shall be the food of dragons! You dull, dense humans!
Munch Munch

THESE ARE THE VERY FIRST CHARACTER SKETCHES I DREW FOR *DRAGONAR ACADEMY*. THEY'RE FROM MY CHARACTER DESIGN APPLICATION, WHICH COINCIDED WITH THE LAST CHAPTER OF MY LAST STORY, *MAID WAR CHRONICLE*. BECAUSE I RAN SHORT ON TIME, I DIDN'T GET TO USE MANY TONES. BACK THEN DRAWING WASN'T BEING DONE DIGITALLY YET. ECO'S HEAD-TO-BODY PROPORTIONS ARE STILL A BIT LOW. SO HERE, HAVE SOME CHARACTER DESIGN INFO!

About the *Dragonar Academy* Character Designs!

ECO
Summer Clothes!
My mental image of Eco is that she's less than 150cm
Mascot dragon! It's an original, so don't mind me
When the proof in her pants... Nude shirt
Eco

FROM THE FIRST MOMENT I HEARD ABOUT *DRAGONAR ACADEMY*, I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH ECO. I'VE NEVER HAD TROUBLE DRAWING HER. MY IMAGE OF HER HAS CHANGED VERY LITTLE! SOMETIMES I FORGET TO DRAW HER HORNS, AND I DON'T ALWAYS CATCH IT RIGHT AWAY, WHICH IS A PROBLEM. IS IT BECAUSE SHE'S SO CUTE AND A LITTLE DISCOMFORT DOESN'T COUNT? SHE'S WEARING SUMMER CLOTHES FROM VOLUME 1.

I ONLY SUBMITTED A ROUGH SKETCH FOR ASH. I HAD TROUBLE GETTING THE HEAD-TO-BODY RATIO JUST RIGHT. IT WASN'T BECAUSE HE'S A MALE CHARACTER! BUT MAX AND RAYMOND WERE ONLY ROUGH SKETCHES, TOO... HMM. HE'S THE MAIN CHARACTER, AND I LOVE DRAWING HIM.

Ash
Blake
He's a type of male character I hadn't had a chance to draw before, so I'm really enjoying the opportunity to draw him now. I wish I'd drawn him a little better.
Ash
Blake
Early Version

Since you haven't read the second volume, you're missing some vital information about Sylvia. I've left her legs the way I had them originally.
Sylvia Lautreamont
This picture here is when she's feeling Lancelot and pouring her heart out to him
Sylvia Lautreamont
Early Version

About the Dragonar Academy Character Designs!

I MISSPELLED HER NAME IN ENGLISH, BUT THIS IS THE CHARACTER DESIGN! INFORMATION FOR SYLVIA. SINCE I DIDN'T HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOOTS AND THE BOTTOM HALF OF THE DRAGON SUIT WHEN I WAS DRAWING THIS, I'VE LEFT IT THE WAY IT ORIGINALLY WAS. LOOKING AT THE DRAWINGS NOW, I SEE THAT I FORGOT THE PRINCESS' HAIR ANTENNA WHEN SHE WEARS THE SUIT. WHEN HER HAIR IS DIFFERENT, SHE GIVES A VERY DIFFERENT IMPRESSION. IT'S A LOT OF FUN TO DRAW.

Rebecca Randall

Rebecca

Rebecca Randall
The smiles a lot, but that's fierce!
Spear, One Body, Twin Lance format
In terms of her, eyes, the "smile" is loud enough more than the other characters

REBECCA'S CHARACTER DESIGN IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM THE MORE ALISTERE EARLY IMPRESSION, ISN'T IT? SOMEONE POINTED IT OUT TO ME, SO IT TOOK EXTRA CARE THIS TIME. SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WITH THE ARK DRAGONAR AT THIS POINT. THE ORIGINAL DESIGN FOR CAE BOUG WAS THAT IT WAS A TWIN LANCE. WELL, MORE ABOUT THAT LATER...

HERE ARE THE DESIGNS FOR THE TWO CHARACTERS WHO MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT BE FROM THE EMPIRE! ANYA IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE CHARACTERS. I CAN'T DECIDE WHETHER HER PONYTAIL IS TIED AT THE BACK OF HER HEAD OR THE SIDE. SWEATDROP! AS FOR MILGAUSS, I MADE A BOOBOO IN THE MANUSCRIPT WHERE I FORGOT TO PUT IN THE HIGHLIGHTS THAT WERE INCLUDED IN THE CHARACTER DESIGN. I HOPE TO SEE MORE OF HIM IN THE FUTURE.

About the Dragoner Academy Character Designs!

SHE IS THE ONLY CHARACTER IN THE STORY WITH DROOPING EYES. DRAWING HER IS VERY COMFORTING FOR ME. I SEEM TO GET WORKED UP WHEN I SEE SLANTED EYES AND RELAXED WHEN I SEE DROOPY EYES (LOL). SINCE I DREW A MAID IN MY ORIGINAL STORY, SHE WAS EASY TO DRAW.

Comments from the original author for the light novel version of Dragonar Academy.

Original Story by Shiki Mizuchi

Meeting Ran-sensei was the greatest moment for this story--and the greatest moment for me, the author of the original.

Since April 2011, every time the latest issue of Monthly Comic Alive magazine comes out, I get lost in the manga version of Dragonar Academy--so lost that I forget that I was the author of the original story!

The manga version gives Ran-sensei's particular soft touch and liveliness to the characters, while remaining faithful to the character designs that Kohada Shimesaba created. Together, they portray a world with majestic dragons that run and fly in a fantastic European setting which is drawn down to the most minute detail.

While I send cheers and applause to Ran-sensei, I'm also inspired! As the original story author, I have to work to not be overshadowed.

I hope more people come to love Dragonar Academy through this manga version. It really is a lucky story!

Humbly,
Shiki Mizuchi

Character Design by Kohada Shimesaba

Hello! This is Kohada Shimesaba. Seeing characters I designed come alive so vividly is such a nice surprise! (LOL) I'm sure everyone will enjoy it!!

Postscript

Hi, this is RAN. How did you like the manga version of *Dragonar Academy*? I'm still learning, but I'll do my best to convey the wonderful, beautiful world created by Shiki Mizuchi-sensei... not to mention the adorable Eco and the others.

I hope you'll keep sending encouragement to *Dragonar Academy*.

See you again!

RAN

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A BOY AND HIS DRAGON

Welcome to Ansullivan Dragonar Academy, a school with a difference: the students are all dragon riders, each contracted with their own personal dragon. Ash Blake has the unique ability to ride anyone's dragon, but he's been waiting for what feels like forever for his own dragon to be born. He's thrilled when his dragon, Eco, finally appears—but she inexplicably takes the form of a beautiful human girl.

Eco's peculiar appearance is only the first unusual thing Ash faces. His life is about to become a whirlwind of spies, dragon races, and unexpected attention from both the proud Princess Sylvia and the beautiful president of the student council, Rebecca. All Ash wants is to acclimate Eco to the world, but someone out there wants his strange dragon on the dissecting table!

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